

POLICY AND CURRICULUM SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, August 4, 2014

Oliver Administration Building

Present

Subcommittee: William O'Dell, Chair, Diana Campbell and Lynn Wainwright

School Committee, Administration & Guests: John Saviano, Mario Andrade, Diane Sanna, Jen Copeland and Don Rebello

Meeting called to order by Bill O. at 6:49 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Lynn W. motioned to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2014 meeting; Diana C. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

To accommodate the guests that were present, the Junior Prom Day Early Dismissal Policy discussion was held at the start of the meeting.

Junior Prom Day Early Dismissal Policy

Bill O. clarified that the Junior Prom Day Early Dismissal Policy would only be a handbook procedure and not a School Committee Policy. He requested that Don R. strike the word "Policy" from the document and replace with the word "Procedure".

Subcommittee members asked clarifying questions concerning tenants of the Junior Prom Day Early Dismissal Procedure which were answered.

A consensus was reached to add the following two bullets to the Junior Prom Day Early Dismissal Procedure:

- being academically ineligible to participate in school activities/athletics**
- having accumulated more than 10 school tardies for the entire year**

Don R. reported that the Junior Prom Day Early Dismissal Pilot worked well. Students appreciated being rewarded for good behavior.

MOTION: Lynn W. made a motion to move forward to a first reading of the full School Committee the amended Junior Prom Day Early Dismissal Procedure; seconded by Bill O. The motion passed with a 2-1 vote; Diana C. dissenting.

Graduation Requirements Policy (IKF)

Mario A. stated that the Graduation Requirements Policy (IKF) was recently revised and adopted in April 2014 to align with the recent RI Board of Education Graduation Requirement mandating that students must meet a certain performance criteria on the RI State Assessment.

Mario A. reported that recently the General Assembly passed a law which would delay the RI State Assessment graduation requirement mandate until 2017. In order to align with this most recent graduation requirement change, Mario A. recommended an amendment to the Graduation Requirements Policy (IKF) to use broader language, simply stating that “...all students must meet the RI Board of Education graduation requirements.”

MOTION: Diana C. made a motion to move forward to the full School Committee for a first reading the amended Graduation Requirements Policy (IKF); seconded by Lynn W. The motion passed unanimously.

Waiver of the State Assessment Graduation Requirement Policy (IKF-E)

Mario A. stated that due to the change in the Graduation Requirements law which delays the RI State Assessment criteria for graduation until 2017, there would not be a need for the “Policy for Waiver of the State Assessment Graduation Requirement”.

MOTION: Diana C. made a motion to delete the Policy for Waiver of the State Assessment Graduation Requirement from the list of School Committee Policies; seconded by Lynn W. The motion passed unanimously.

(Jen Copeland left at 7:29 p.m.)

(Don Rebello left at 7:29 p.m.)

Special Education Staffing Policy (GAB)

Mario A. stated that he has been researching those policies that require annual reaffirmation and/or updating. During that process, he discovered that the Special Education Staffing Policy was out of date.

Leslie Anderson, Director of Pupil Services, reviewed the policy and conferred with the District's legal counsel, Andrew H., who made revisions to the policy for the purpose of updating.

The Subcommittee members asked for clarification on some of the changes being proposed.

Mario A. stated that the Special Education Staffing Policy (GAB) should be reaffirmed annually due to the "No Child Left Behind Act".

A request was made for the secretary to the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee to make necessary smithing changes.

MOTION: Diana C. made a motion to move to the full School Committee for a first reading the updated Special Education Staffing Policy (GAB); seconded by Lynn W. The motion passed unanimously.

Equal Educational Opportunities Policy (JB)

MOTION: Diana C. made a motion to bring the Equal Educational Opportunities Policy (JB) before the full School Committee for reaffirmation; seconded by Lynn W. The motion passed unanimously.

Policy Review List

Updates to the Policy Review List were discussed. The list of policies for future affirmation will be discussed at the next regularly scheduled Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting.

Future Agenda Items

- Update language related to Students with Disabilities Policies
- Policy Review List
- Policies for Possible Future Reaffirmation

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 2, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

MOTION: At 7:40 pm Diana C. motioned to adjourn; Lynn W. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

/kd